

HIS MAJESTY'S FACTORY PERFIN - EARLY USAGE

by Tony Edwards



The perfin HM/F is well known. It was used by His Majesty's factory near Gretna Green. The perfin is not common but is found on the George V 1912/22 issues from 4½d to 2½d. This factory was in use from 1915 to 1919 and examples are usually found within this date range and postmarked either "GRETNA" or "CARLISLE". I was, therefore, a little surprised to come across an example on an Edward VII issue, which, presumably, went out of use long before the factory was opened in 1915. The stamp, illustrated above, is a 1d red and is postmarked "FOLK " (possibly FOLKESTONE or FOLKINGHAM) the year being unclear.

Can anyone provide more evidence of early usage, or information about an earlier "His Majesty's Factory". Perhaps Edward VII issues were supplied as late as 1915. All information would be welcome.
